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8-21-1960

### 1960-08-21, Bette to Parents

Bette J. Barto

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## Subject Terms

Women and the military, Women and war, United States -- Air Force, United States -- Army -- Air Forces, Photographs, Armed Forces -- Correspondence, Correspondence -- Vietnam War -- 1961-1975, Christmas

## Summary

This collection contains 139 correspondence from Maj. Bette J. Barto, USAFE to her parents while serving as a nurse during the late 1950s and 1960s. Also included are three photographs, one special orders document, and one marriage license. In several cases, Bette refers to her parents as "Lizzie" and "Hugh Elmer," or simply "Elmer." Three letters from 1961 or 1962 are undated and placed in a separate folder.

## Keywords

1960-08-21

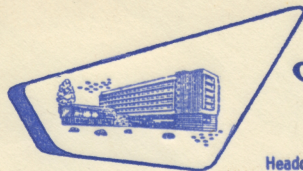
## Identifier

2017-219-w-r-\_Barto\_ColdWar\_1960-08-21

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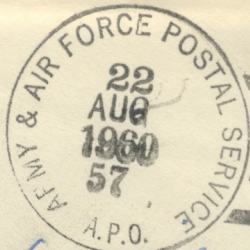
*Capt. BETTE J Harris*



*The*  
*general*  
*von* **Steuben**  
**HOTEL**

Headquarters, United States Air Forces In Europe

**APO 633 USAF • NEW YORK N. Y.**



*Airmail*

*[Handwritten flourish]*

*Mr. + Mrs. H. E. Harris*  
*1717 Highland Avenue*  
*Knoxville 16*  
*Tennessee*



21 August 60.

Sunday

3<sup>PM</sup>

Dear Mom and Daddy,

I'm in Germany! I thought that would surprise you. I got called out on an emergency air evac. flight to go to Germany, Italy to pick up a 3 weeks old infant with intestinal obstruction. We left at 8<sup>30</sup> PM Thursday night and by the time we had radio trouble and had to wait in Italy for the infant to come by ambulance from a small dispensary, it didn't get to Wiesbaden, Germany until 0645 Friday morning.

The child was severely dehydrated; so it was receiving cut-down fluids all the way. The dispensary was so stupid they didn't even bring a bassinet and I sat in the cockpit of a big C-130 aircraft holding the infant on my lap all the way. I was paralyzed by the time I delivered it to Wiesbaden Hospital.

I don't have a ride back to Wheelus before Tuesday, so I'm staying with some flight nurses I went to



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Countryside. The mountains in the background are about as high as Star Mountain in Iowa. The grass is green, green, green and there are trees of all varieties as well as flowers. It is cloudy quite often and has sprinkled rain 2-3 times today.

We've been sitting in the Community Kitchen here among the flight nurses most of the day. There is a constant stream of them through here to eat a sandwich or fix coffee. My room is too cool to sit in - after 112° temp! Am freezing to death up here!

I went to the AFEX to buy an extra sweater because all I packed was 2 dresses and 2 sweaters - everything else I had was in my trunk and I didn't have time to hunt it.

Well, it's getting close to supper time; so I'll quit and go press something to wear. So nice up here but I'm ready to go to Wheelus where my mailbox is. I miss yours and Ray's letters. I miss you, Betty